

Message Text

SECRET

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11

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /065 W
----- 037153

R 080529Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6525

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T SAIGON 8959

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR EG VS

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN INTEREST IN OVERFLIGHTS OF SOUTH VIET-NAM

REF: CAIRO 4466

1. OUR DELAYED RESPONSE TO REFTEL OCCASIONED BY CONFLICTING INFORMATION ON DATE OF RVN FONMIN BAC TO RETURN TO SAIGON. WE HAD EXPECTED HIS RETURN FROM CARACAS, WHERE HE HEADED GVN DEL TO LOS CONFERENCE, BY NOW. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT HE RETURNED FROM LONDON TO SOUTH AMERICA TO VISIT CHILE AND PERHAPS ALSO TO URUGUAY. WE DO BELIEVE HE WILL BE BACK IN SAIGON WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS.

2. FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER DUC HAS NOW LEFT SAIGON TO BECOME RVN AMB IN BRUSSELS. BAC IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ASSISTING THE EGYPTIANS AND CAN BE COUNTED ON TO PUSH THE PRES INTO A FAVORABLE DECISION. MY JUDGEMENT IS THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO AWAIT HIS RETURN WHEN WE WILL GET HIM TO AGAIN START WORK ON OBTAINING PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL WHICH WILL NOT BE ALL THAT EASY IN VIEW OF DRV/"PRG" RECENT WALK-OUTS OF PARIS AGREEMENT MACHINERY.

3. AS SOON AS HE HAS RETURNED WE WILL REPORT TO YOU ON THE RESULT OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT.

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4. AMB COULD, OF COURSE, DIRECTLY APPROACH THE

PRES ON THIS AFFAIR BUT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE BETTER ALL
THE WAY AROUND TO LEAVE IT IN THE CHANNELS ALREADY STARTED
AND WE BELIEVE THE FONMIN WILL GET AN AFFIRMATIVE
ANSWER. WILL INFORM CAIRO AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE IT.
MARTIN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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